

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN ECOLOGY



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16th October, 1950.

Dear Lederberg,

I am greatly interested in the statistical treatment of data on bacterial recombination, though experimental data is rather hard to come by. I am of course in close touch with Dr. L. L. Cavalli who works in the Cambridge University Department of Genetics.

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Could you answer a query in connection with your paper in Genetics, 1947, on "Gene recombination etc."? The figures given in Table 5 are of special interest. Presumably the second number in the first line should read 303 and not 203, otherwise the percentages quoted do not fit. One other particularly anomalous result is the excessive number of triptas (5.1%) for the B₁ group of the third type of cross. Could you tell me whether there is any possibility of a printer's error here, or whether it is really the quantity observed? Actually all the proportions in this line, except the first look a little unusual.

I should also like to enquire whether you have collected further data of this kind of bacterial recombination, as I am particularly anxious to make an investigation into possible disturbances due to differential viability, partial manifestation, interference etc.

Hoping to hear from you soon,

Yours sincerely,

Norman T. J. Bailey

Statistician to the Department of Medicine.
University of Cambridge.

Professor J. Lederberg.
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